

REMARKS

This Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed on February 5, 2004 in which a restriction requirement was imposed upon claims of the application. The Office Action indicated that claims 1-88 are pending in the application. However, Applicants respectfully note that the originally filed PCT application included claims 1-89 with two claims numbered as claim 16, with two claims numbered as claim 17, with two claims numbered as claim 52. In addition, there was no claim 87. On February 12, 2003, a Preliminary Amendment was filed canceling the first occurrence of each of claims 16 and 17 and adding claims 90-92. Accordingly, prior to this response, the pending claims were claims 1-86 and claims 88-92, with two claims numbered as claim 52.

The Office Action imposed a restriction requirement asserting that the pending claims were directed to two distinct inventions:

Invention Group I – Claims 1-16, 17-21, 22 and 89, drawing to a concrete mixing drum; and

Invention Group II – Claims 23-30, 31-72, 73 and 74-88, drawn to a method of making a moulded drum.

With this Reply, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I. Prior to this amendment, those claims drawn to a concrete mixing drum properly included in Group I include claims 1-22, 90 and 91. With this reply, the non-elected claims, claims 23-86, 88 and 92 are canceled. Both occurrences of claim 52 are canceled. In addition, claims 21 and 22 are canceled. Accordingly, after this amendment, the presently pending claims now include claims 1-20, 89-91 and 93-141.

Added claims 93-141 are believed to be patentably distinct over the prior art of record. No new matter is believed to be added. Accordingly, consideration and allowance of claims 1-20, 89-91 and 93-141 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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